

Patent Claims

1. Apparatus for the alignment of a stack of sheets, in particular for the feeder of a printing machine, said apparatus comprising at least one pair
5 of trimming elements which can be adjusted at distances relative to each other in a preferably continuous manner in order to accommodate and align the stack between said trimming elements,
characterized in that
said trimming elements are coupled with each other for counter-directional
10 motion, so that an automatic stop means preventing an enlargement of the distance between the trimming elements is provided and so that this stop means can be deactivated if required.
2. Apparatus as in Claim 1, **characterized in that** the stop means comprises, only for reducing the distance between the trimming elements, a
15 free-running free-wheel for an axle of a rotating non-driven positive-locking element which can be moved out of its positive-locked state in order to deactivate the stop means.
- 20 3. Apparatus as in Claim 2, **characterized in that** the positive-locking element is a gear rolling on a rack.
4. Apparatus as in Claim 2 or 3, **characterized in that** the positive-locking element can be lifted out of its positive-locking state against a spring force.
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5. Apparatus as in one of the previous Claims, **characterized in that** the trimming elements extend in a fence-like manner in upward direction.
6. Apparatus as in one of the previous Claims, **characterized in that**, several
30 pairs of trimming elements are provided.

7. Apparatus as in Claim 6, characterized in that at least two pairs of trimming elements can be adjusted in orthogonal directions relative to each other.

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